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The Anti-trust case against Microsoft is not just a case against anti-competitive practices; this case involves the control and dissemination of knowledge. Like Gutenberg's printing press, the World Wide Web (WWW) is the present day access point for knowledge. No single company should have a monopoly on the interface to access the WWW or on the standards to create WWW content.

The progress of the United States, as a technological power, is directly linked to the technical ability of its population. A monopoly on the WWW is a threat for the advancement and continued technological leadership position that the United States has enjoyed.

The bundling of Windows and Internet Explorer has forced innovation to be dictated by a single company. It was the inherent openness of the WWW that spurred the new digital revolution, and the creation of new jobs for the U.S. economy. However, Internet Explorer's domination has stifled innovation on the WWW, because a single browser means strict adherence to a monolithic ideology of WWW content creation and delayed development of the second generation of the WWW.

Microsoft's new .NET initiative is the final stage of control over the WWW. By creating proprietary standards Microsoft will also be in control of the content of the WWW. This new standardization will force all content on the web to be Microsoft approved. A single company with so much power over intellectual as well as commercial information has never been seen and should never be seen.

In spite of the court finding that Microsoft is a monopoly, there has been no sign that Microsoft will change its monopolistic ways. Microsoft's .NET initiative is the new threat to an open and beneficial information highway. A just decision must be made to protect the access and content of the WWW, without a commercial company dictating what future technologies may bring.